

## **EQC PROCESS REGARDING AGENCY BILL DRAFT PROPOSALS**

- ☞ In order to facilitate the orderly drafting of executive branch bill drafts and to allow legislative oversight of agency bill draft proposals, each agency assigned to the EQC for oversight purposes is required to present descriptions of proposed legislation to the EQC.
- ☞ At a predetermined EQC meeting, each agency presents the descriptions of their proposed legislation that have been approved by the Office of Budget and Program Planning. The EQC reviews and discusses the legislative proposals and then makes a formal decision as to whether the proposed legislation should be requested for drafting purposes only.
- ☞ The EQC's decision to "request" on behalf of the agency that a bill be drafted does not mean that the EQC endorses the bill draft, nor does it mean that the bills are "by request of the EQC." It simply gets the requests into the bill drafting system so that the bill drafts can be drafted early so that legislative staff can be ready to draft legislator bills after the November elections. The agency bill as introduced will reflect that it is "by request of the agency". The agency will be responsible for finding a legislator to actually carry the bill during the session.
- ☞ The EQC's decision to request that an agency bill be drafted also allows agency bills to be pre-introduced prior to the legislative session, which in turn allows the standing committees of the Legislature to promptly convene during the first week of the legislative session and hold committee hearings.
- ☞ CAVEAT: This does not mean that the EQC has to request that each of the agency's bill draft proposals be drafted. In the past, the EQC has occasionally made the decision not to request that an agency proposal be drafted. This is a golden opportunity for the EQC to provide comments and constructive criticism regarding agency policy proposals.